Chapter 52

THE ROYAL TUTOR

Higasa Akai

"WELL, THEN... I SHALL BE OFF."
"WELL, SEE YOU!"
.....

Chapter 52

The Princes Set Out

NOW, THEN...
...I MUST LEAVE FOR PRINCE KAI AND PRINCE LEONHARD'S JOINT LESSON...
TAP
TAP
I WAS RELIEVED PRINCE LEONHARD PAID ATTENTION TO HIS LESSONS DESPITE HIS LOW SPIRITS.
YESTERDAY, PRINCE BRUNO SET OUT FOR HIS STUDIES ABROAD.
KNOCK
コン
KNOCK
コン
KNOCK
コン
!!!
STILL, FOR BOTH PRINCE LICHT AND PRINCE BRUNO...
...TO DEPART THE PALACE IN SWIFT SUCCESSION...
.....

PRINCE KAI...
...SORRY... THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK ABOUT...
...BEFORE THE COMBINED LESSON...
PLEASE, DO COME IN.
CLUTTER
ガちゃあぁっ
.....

ひょーい
HOIST
TEACHER... I'LL CARRY THAT.
YOU DO NOT NEED TO CARRY ME ALONG WITH IT, YOUR HIGHNESS.
THANK YOU.
パタン
SHUT
...I BEG YOUR PARDON. MAY WE DISCUSS THIS ON THE WAY TO OUR LESSON IN THE RECEPTION HALL?
...OKAY.
PRETEND YOU DID NOT SEE THAT
...NOW, WHAT DID YOU WISH TO DISCUSS?
STOP
...SO... ...IF I CAN...
..UNTIL LICHT AND BRUNO... ...BOTH LEFT...
I'D NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING THE PALACE...

...I WANT TO LEAVE THE PALACE TOO.

NO.
MERELY SOMEWHAT SURPRISED.
ARE YOU MAD...?
.....

.....
...I WOULD ASSUME THIS IS SOMETHING YOU WOULD NOT SAY WITHOUT A SIGNIFICANT REASON.
ALTHOUGH YOU ARE OVERCOMING YOUR DIFFICULTIES IN COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE OUTSIDE YOUR FAMILY...
...YOU SEE... AT THE MILITARY ACADEMY, IN A WEEK...WE'RE SUPPOSED TO LEAVE FOR A TRAINING TRIP...
...WE'RE GOING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL... WHERE WE'LL HAVE COMBINED TRAINING...AND PARTICIPATE IN ARMY DRILLS...
...FOR ONE MONTH, WE'LL BE STAYING IN ALL KINDS OF DIFFERENT PLACES, THEY SAY...
I THOUGHT I'D BETTER NOT...I'D BE A NUISANCE IF I MADE THEM FUSS OVER ME...
...BUT THEY TOLD ME ROYALS ARE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION AND DON'T HAVE TO PARTICIPATE...
THEY CAN'T GIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT AS TO WHAT WE EAT OR WHERE WE SLEEP...

I WONDER WHAT TRAINING WITH A REAL ARMY WILL BE LIKE?
IT'S SCARY, ISN'T IT...?
...BUT...
YOU'RE STRONG, AND NOTHING FAZES YOU!
OH, BUT YOU'LL BE FINE, RIGHT, KAI?
LET'S BOTH GIVE IT OUR ALL!
I'D BETTER FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE.

...I...
...WANT TO HELP...
...MY FRIEND.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I CAN DO...
...BUT I AT LEAST WANT TO BE THERE TO CALL OUT TO HIM...
...AND ENCOURAGE HIM...
PRINCE KAI...
.....
...ONLY...

...I'M WORRIED ABOUT LEONHARD TOO...
HE SEEMED SO LONELY ABOUT LICHT AND BRUNO GOING AWAY.
IF I LEAVE THE PALACE TOO...
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
I'LL WORRY ABOUT ELMER IF I STAY...
...AND I'LL WORRY ABOUT LEONHARD IF I GO...
BUT THIS WILL BE A CHANCE TO HANDLE THE NEWEST MILITARY DEVICES AND STUDY THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TERRAIN AND TACTICS.
... WELL ...
...THERE IS STILL SOME TIME UNTIL THE TRAINING.
WHY NOT WAIT FOR THE RIGHT TIMING TO DISCUSS THIS WITH PRINCE LEONHARD?
SO I WANT TO GO FOR MY SAKE TOO.
BUT...
.....

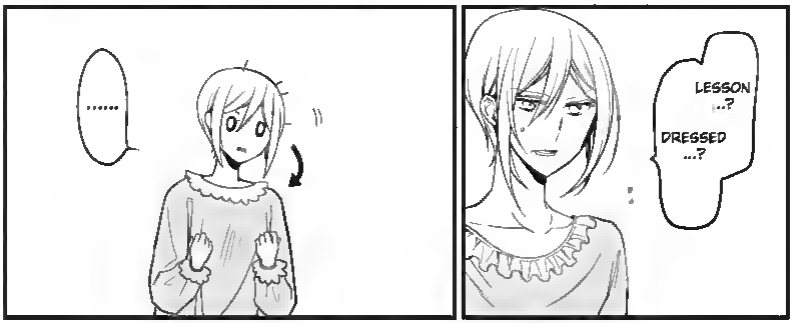
.....
I DO BELIEVE THAT IS A LESSON YOUR HIGHNESS HAS BEEN LEARNING.
IF YOU DO NOT SPEAK, NOTHING WILL BEGIN.
...IS THAT...A GOOD IDEA...?
YESTERDAY, PRINCE LEONHARD WAS OUT OF SORTS TO A DEGREE...
...BUT HE DID NOT SEEM SO DEPRESSED THAT HE WOULD BE UNWILLING TO LISTEN AT ALL.
CREAK
...AND BE BACK TO HIS NORMAL SELF...
FOR ALL WE KNOW, HE MIGHT HAVE ALREADY RECOVERED...
YEAH...
OKAY...

ごーーーん
GOOONG

ARE YOU AWAKE?
SMACK
てし
SMACK
てし
I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN SOON.
IT IS TIME FOR YOUR JOINT LESSON.
てし
SMACK
P—
PRINCE LEON-HARD...?
AH!
SHOOP
しゅっ
てし
SMACK
STARE
じっ
.....?
.....
.....
SWIP

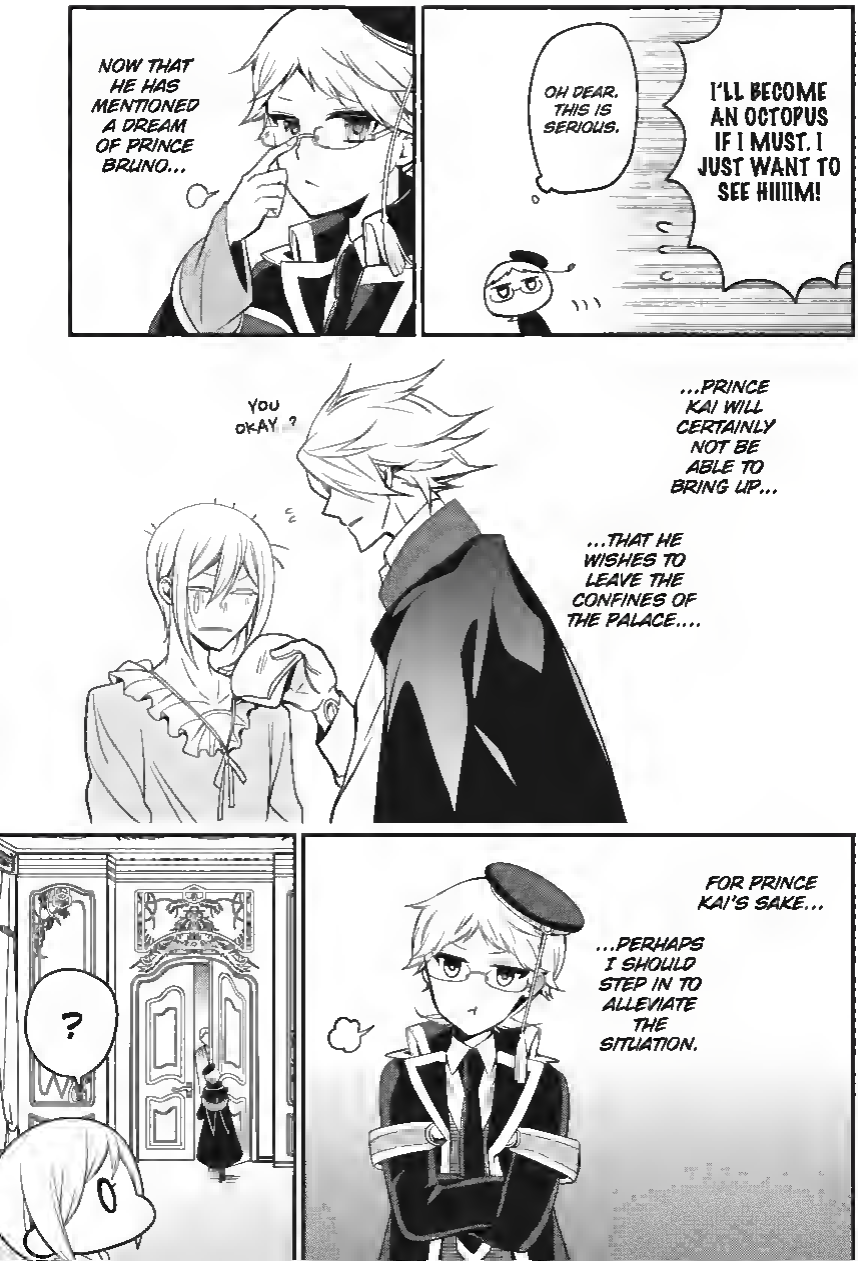
THOSE SPECTACLES ARE NOT PRINCE BRUNO.
SOB
DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO!

AHH!
RETURN THOSE PLEASE!
WHY IS YOUR HIGHNESS DRESSED IN SUCH A MANNER WHEN YOUR LESSON IS ABOUT TO BEGIN?
PRINCE LEONHARD.


.....
LESSON ...?
DRESSED ...?

IT'S ON... BACK-WARD ...!!?
!?
MOREOVER, I DO BELIEVE THOSE ARE YOUR PAJAMAS.
WHERE AM I...!?
WHAT!?
WHAT TIME IS IT!?
IT IS 8:50 IN THE MORN-ING.
YOU ARE IN THE RECEPTION HALL.
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?
.....
I HAD A DREAM.
A DREAM?

WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE
TEARY
BUT... WHEN I WOKE UP, DEAREST BROTHER WAS...WAS GONE...
WHAM
UWAAAAAAAAHN!
I SEARCHED HIS ROOM, AND THE ENTIRE PALACE, BUT HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
THEN I REMEMBERED THAT HE WENT AWAY, AND...
I SEE... SO YOU COLLAPSED HERE IN THE RECEPTION HALL...

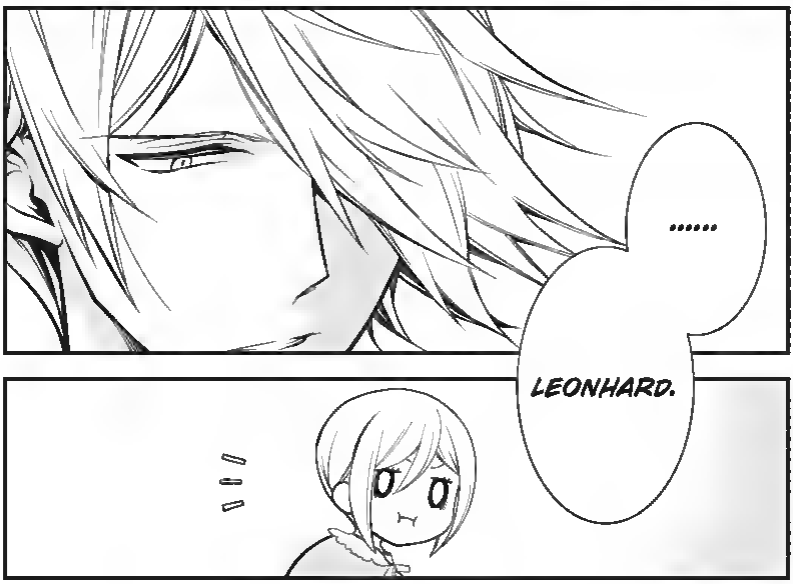

NOW THAT HE HAS MENTIONED A DREAM OF PRINCE BRUNO...
OH DEAR. THIS IS SERIOUS.
I'LL BECOME AN OCTOPUS IF I MUST. I JUST WANT TO SEE HIIIIM!
YOU OKAY...?
...PRINCE KAI WILL CERTAINLY NOT BE ABLE TO BRING UP...
...THAT HE WISHES TO LEAVE THE CONFINES OF THE PALACE....
?
FOR PRINCE KAI'S SAKE...
...PERHAPS I SHOULD STEP IN TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION.

てか
SPARKLE
AS A SPECIAL TREAT TODAY, HERE IS SACHERTORTE WITH TEA TO HELP YOU WAKE UP.
OHH!
PRINCE LEON-HARD.
WE HAVE A FEW MINUTES BEFORE YOUR LESSON.
FLAP
CLINK CLINK
カチャ カチャ
てててー
SCAMPER
YAAAY! TORTE!
THIS SHOULD LIFT HIS MOOD A TRIFLE...
HE IS SIMPLE TO ENTICE
.....
DELI-CIOUS...
CLINK
ぱくぱく
MUNCH MUNCH
MMM... DELICIOUS!
うきうき
GIDDY GIDDY
STAB

WHY?
GUSH
I...I CAN'T STAND BITTER DRINKS, SO I ALWAYS DRINK TEA...
BUT THE KAISER MÉLANGE THAT LICHT MADE FOR ME...
I COULD DRINK THAT...
IT WAS SO VERY DELICIOUS...

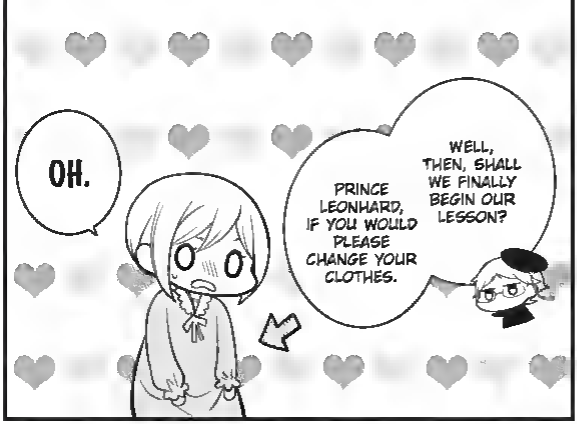
OH DEAR... HE'S FALLING FURTHER INTO A NEGATIVE SPIRAL...
THE VOICES OF DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO AND LICHT FIGHTING... THEY'RE GONE TOO...
HAAH...
WE WOULD ALL SIT AROUND THE TABLE... ...AND EAT TEATIME SNACKS TOGETHER EVERY DAY...
PARDON?
I-I KNOW THEY HAVE GOALS, I DO...
BUT... BUT WE'RE PRINCES! PRINCES GET TO BE IN THE PALACE BECAUSE THEY'RE IMPORTANT!
...WHY WOULD THEY LEAVE THE PALACE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WHIRL
LICHT AND DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO BOTH WENT AND MADE THEIR DECISIONS ON THEIR OWN...
THEY DIDN'T BOTHER TO ASK ME BECAUSE THEY THINK I'M STUPID!

HE IS QUITE SHARP AT MOMENTS LIKE THIS, ISN'T HE?
IT MUST BE HIS ANIMAL INSTINCTS AT WORK...
JAB
YOU HAVEN'T ACTUALLY ALREADY DECIDED THAT YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE THE PALACE TOO, HAVE YOU, KAI!?
AH.

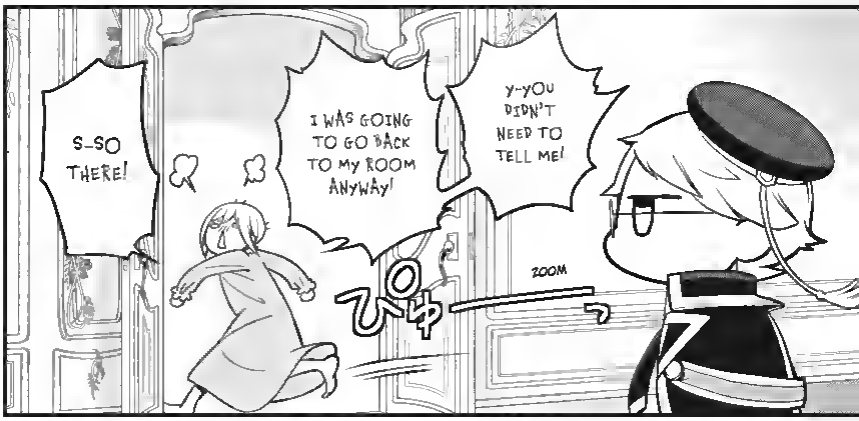

.....
LEONHARD.

I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE IN THE PALACE.
IT'S OKAY...
R... REALLY?
.....!

BEAM
ぱあ
NOD
こくっ
YEAH.
I'M SORRY...
IT'S A BAD HABIT...
I JUST... I ALWAYS GET SO NEGATIVE...
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
I'LL WRITE THIS DISASTER IN MY DIARY RIGHT NOW AND REFLECT ON IT!
HE WAS CARRYING IT WITH HIM?
MY WORD!


OH.
PRINCE LEONHARD, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES.
WELL, THEN, SHALL WE FINALLY BEGIN OUR LESSON?

FEEL A LITTLE BET-TER?
YES!


S-SO THERE!
I WAS GOING TO GO BACK TO MY ROOM ANYWAY!
Y-YOU DIDN'T NEED TO TELL ME!
ZOOM
ぴゅー

...ARE YOU CERTAIN ABOUT THIS?

.....
SLAM

...YEAH.
FRIENDS ARE IMPORT-ANT...
...BUT SO IS FAMILY.
THE TRAINING TRIP WILL BE LONG... I THINK IT WILL BE PRETTY HARD...
...BUT I KNOW ELMER CAN HANDLE IT.
HE'LL COME HOME UNHURT.
.....
RIGHT NOW, I NEED TO STAY HERE...
...SO LEONHARD WON'T BE LONELY...
I LEFT MY HOMEWORK IN MY ROOM.
I'LL GO GET IT...
TAKE YOUR TIME.
DASH
...AH.
YEAH.
IS THAT SO?
WELL, IF YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH THAT...

DEAR BROTHER KAI...
...IS GOING TO GO AWAY...
I KNEW IT...
HE'S LEAVING ME TOO...
.....!

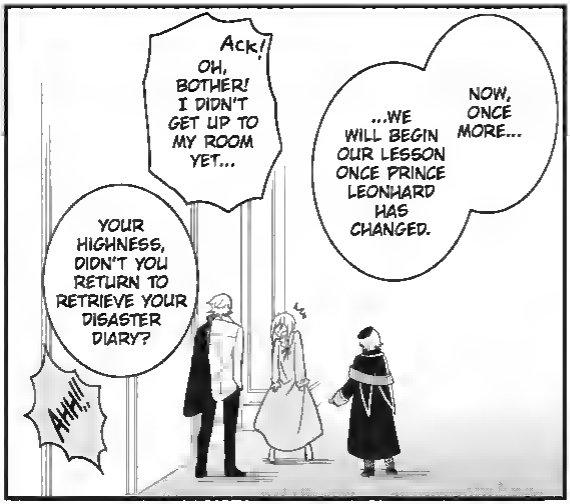
I REALIZED I LEFT MY DIARY IN THERE, SO I CAME RIGHT BACK, BUT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING, SO I...
W-
WAIT! I WASN'T EAVESDROPPING...!
LEONHARD...?
BADUMP
ど!き~っ
...LEONHARD...
.....
GLANCE
IT'S OKAY.
AFTER CONSIDERING EVERYTHING...
...I'VE DECIDED TO STAY.
—!

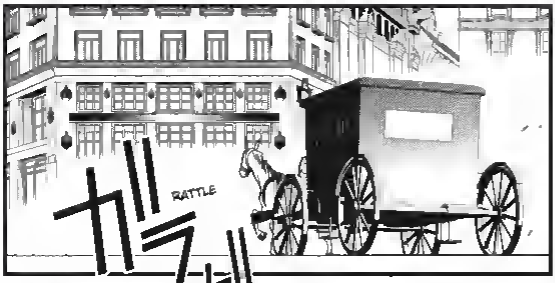
I'M...I'M STRONGER THAN ELMER!!
I'M A SUPER-FAST RUNNER, AND NO ONE BESTS ME AT FENCING, AND I'M ESPECIALLY GOOD AT RIDING.
I'M STRONGER THAN THAT WEAKLING IN EVERY WAY!
I AM!
I WAS ABLE TO SWIPE HIS TORTE EASILY!
HUH?

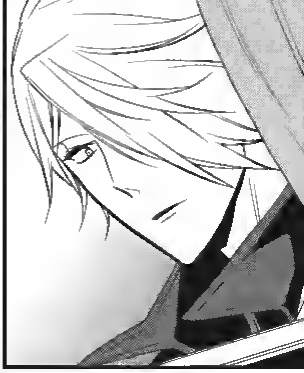
SO...
...YOU SHOULD GO WITH ELMER!
.....!

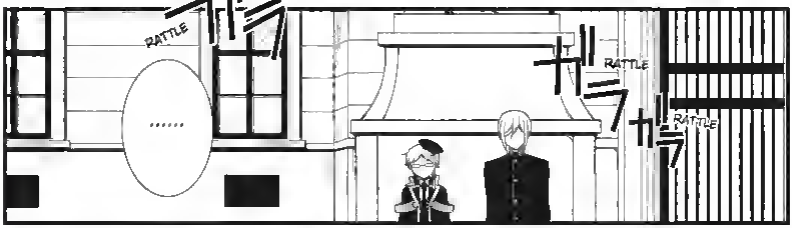
I'LL...
...BE JUST FINE!
YOU TELL ELMER HE'D BETTER BE GRATEFUL TO ME, OKAY?
WIPE
WIPE
TEARY
GRIN

TWITCH
TWITCH
LEONHARD... YOU'RE A GOOD BOY.
THANKS.
I'LL BE SURE TO TELL ELMER...


Ack!
OH, BOTHER! I DIDN'T GET UP TO MY ROOM YET...
YOUR HIGHNESS, DIDN'T YOU RETURN TO RETRIEVE YOUR DISASTER DIARY?
AHH!!
...WE WILL BEGIN OUR LESSON ONCE PRINCE LEONHARD HAS CHANGED.
NOW, ONCE MORE...


RATTLE
ガラガラ




RATTLE
ガラガラ
.....
RATTLE
ガラガラ
RATTLE

I'M FIFTEEN YEARS OLD. I'M ALREADY ALL GROWN UP!
DON'T BE ABSURD!
YOU HAVE GROWN UP A LITTLE, HAVEN'T YOU?

PRINCE LEONHARD.

...DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO TOLD ME TO BE GOOD WHILE HE'S GONE...
BESIDES...

BUT ULTI-MATELY ...
...I'M BEING CONSIDERATE OF WHAT WILL BRING HAPPINESS TO THE PEOPLE AROUND ME.
WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO DO THAT!?
.....!
.....
YES. YOUR LESSONS WILL BEGIN AGAIN AT MIDDAY.
I-I'M GOING TO GO EAT BREAK-FAST. SEE YOU!
...INDEED I WAS.

PRINCE LICHT STRIKING OUT ON HIS OWN, PRINCE BRUNO STUDYING ABROAD, PRINCE KAI TRAINING... ALL ARE PERSONAL DESIRES THEY WISH TO PURSUE.
HOWEVER, IF THERE IS A REASON THESE OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD BE CROPPING UP SO CLOSE TOGETHER...
To be continued in the next chapter of The Royal Tutor

The Royal Tutor Chapter 52

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